

SECTION THREE
VILLAGE OF
CHEVY CHASE

NEWS & VIEWS

JULY 2015

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1
Bulk Trash Pickup, curbside

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8
Council Meeting
CCUMC Wesley Room, 7:45 p.m.

THURSDAY, JULY 16
Welcome New Neighbors BBQ
Gazebo Park, 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.
(rain date same time and place, July 23)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5
Bulk Trash Pick-up

**THERE IS NO AUGUST COUNCIL MEETING
and no August newsletter.**

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13
Family Movie in Gazebo Park
8:30 p.m. (rain date August 20)

WELCOME NEW NEIGHBOR BBQ JULY 16



Rocklands Barbeque is coming to Section 3! Mark your calendars for our annual Welcome New Neighbors Barbeque on Thursday, July 16. We'll gather at the Gazebo Park at 6:00 p.m. for a hearty

meal of ribs and chicken and all the good things that come with it! Our favorite ice cream man plans on coming for the occasion as well. Come meet the new neighbors (they will be wearing silk leis), catch up with old friends, and introduce yourself to someone you don't know. This is a Section 3 residents only event...and in order to get your food you'll need a name tag so everyone knows you are and our new neighbors can match names and faces.

We hope you'll join us at this special annual event. It begins at 6:00 p.m. and will end by 8:30 pm. Come early...it's first come, first served! Don't risk missing out on some delicious grub if you arrive too late. Rain date is Thursday, July 23.

VILLAGE COUNCIL

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IMPOSTER UTILITY MEN BURGLARIES

Montgomery County police have issued a warning that groups of men posing as utility workers, complete with faux uniforms are knocking on people's doors explaining that there is an emergency and that they have to get inside your home to check on the gas/water/electricity...what-

ever. They distract the homeowner and burglarize the home. Happily, most of our meters are outside and if you did not call them, don't let them into your home and please instruct all children and household help not to either! A phone call to the relevant utility from behind a locked closed door can confirm if the visit is genuine.

**In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and our desire to have our meetings open to everyone in our community, Council meetings are held at the Chevy Chase United Methodist Church which has handicapped elevator access via the parking lot entrance. We are grateful to the Church for their generosity in allowing us to use their facility each month.*



COUNCIL ACTIONS

The Council met on Wednesday, June 10 in the Wesley Room of CCUMC. The meeting began at 7:55 p.m. All Council members were present.

The Council approved the minutes of the May annual meeting as published in the June newsletter.

PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES

A large number of neighbors received anti-Semitic hate flyers on their walkways or driveways on Wednesday, May 27. The disturbing two-page diatribe was quickly reported to the police and within a few days, it was apparent that the same individual blanketed parts of Connecticut Avenue, Northwest D.C., Cleveland Park, Martins Additions, Silver Spring, and Takoma Park. The distribution appears to be random as not all of the recipients were Jewish. Nonetheless, the messages were extremely disturbing, particularly when those who were Jewish were unaware of the random nature of the distribution. Last year the same individual, who is known to police, blanketed large portions of Chevy Chase Village at least twice. Montgomery County Police have indicated that such acts are covered under freedom of speech and they will be watchful for any other unlawful behaviors occur.

A resident was suspicious of a person sitting in a car on Bradley Lane, seemingly surveilling someone, but by the time the resident reported it, the individual looked to be on his way, however his license plate was recorded and reported to police.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS

The **Butlers** and the **Lelecks** received permits for construction of new driveways.

Washington Gas replaced the service on three Section 3 homes due to their age and the Village Manager reported that, in two of the three cases, the subcontractor did not properly communicate with either the homeowners or the Village regarding when they would be doing the work and how extensive it would be. Washington Gas has been informed and they have taken steps so that kind of frustrating lack of communication, cancellation of appointments with no calls, etc., won't happen again.

There are still cable TV and telephone lines on nine older Pepco poles which have been replaced. Because of inadequate communication between the various utilities using the poles, it often takes years before the equipment is moved to the new pole and the old one extracted. To avoid that problem, the Village

Manager has contacted Verizon in hopes of speeding up the process so that homeowners on Delaware and Shepherd Street don't have to deal with double poles for an inordinate amount of time.

The sinkhole which appeared in mid-May on Shepherd Street has been promptly repaired thanks to A.B. Viers Company. The reason why it occurred has been identified and steps are being taken to repair a collapsed or broken storm drain on Shepherd Street. Section 3 hired Video Pipe Services to film the storm drain to see where the obstruction is located but sadly they were not able to probe very far either from Florida and Shepherd Streets or from Delaware and Shepherd Streets. The county, which is responsible for maintaining and repairing our storm drains, came in and flushed the drains as best they could, but there is still a large segment that has not been probed. The drains are 10-inch terra cotta pipes likely installed in the 1920s. The county has now asked a consulting engineer to recommend the next steps needed to repair the storm drain. The Village Manager has tried to impress on the county the need for urgency in this matter.

The bills for salt acquired from the State Highway Administration for some of our heavier storms last winter should be significantly lower than the salt we normally use. Unfortunately, we can only use SHA salt for a major storm as our streets are so narrow that a combination of a finer salt and sand is often needed. Nonetheless, the cooperative arrangement with State Highway definitely lowered the bills for clearing of our streets this past winter.

The plant material in the Connecticut Avenue median strip planted last fall did not fare well and in fact, was sub-par when planted. The Village Manager is working with the State Highway Administration to have them all replanted as soon as possible.

The Village is going to try a one-time spraying of the Gazebo Park by the Mosquito Squad to determine if that would cut down on both gnats and mosquitoes. The Village Manager reported having to postpone the treatment several times because of predictions of rain which would have washed away all the spray before we could determine if it was effective.

Brian Afnan of Florida Street came to ask if he could plant, at his own expense, Japanese Lilac trees in the greenway in lieu of serviceberry trees. He also offered to share his research on Japanese lilac with the council. **Larry Leon** of Taylor Street, a landscape specialist, spoke to the idea of having more biodiversity in our greenways in light of the rust problem which has occurred in virtually all our serviceberry trees this year. He pointed out the benefits of using native trees (serviceberry is a native tree).

The Village Manager briefly described the history of the decision to plant all serviceberry trees in our greenways, a Council decision that was based on research done by a committee of

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Congrats to **Amaya Murphy** on her graduation from Savannah College of Art and Design. Amaya is an already experienced actress and is looking to the many exciting opportunities for theater in the DC Metro area. We can't wait to see her in her next production!

SPEED CAMERAS

For those of you speeding towards the beltway, there are new speed cameras installed on the northbound side of Connecticut Avenue between East-West Highway and Jones Bridge Road.

GREAT NEWS FOR OLD SECTION 3 REFRIGERATORS

For many years, we have been told that because of the freon in air conditioners and refrigerators we could not dispose of them curbside without having the freon removed by a licensed professional. This has created lots of problems for folks but now the County tells us that at the scrap metal recycling site run by the county, they have people who can remove the freon, so a tag is no longer required. If you are going to leave a fridge or an ac unit curbside, the doors on the fridge must be removed and you should give us a heads-up so that we can notify our trash contractor.

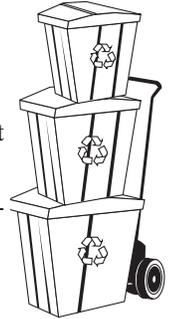
GARDEN EXCHANGE

If you have some plants you'd like to share, contact **Belva Finlay** in Section 3, our Plant Exchange Coordinator. Or if you would like something, let her know and she will put you on the list! It's all free...what better way to recycle than to keep it "in the family," so to speak! Belva's email address is in the directory.



SINGLE STREAMING VS. SEPARATING RECYCLING

There has been much discussion recently about encouraging people to recycle more while at the same time we are learning from *The Washington Post* that the business for recycling just isn't there and in fact, has to be subsidized! Montgomery County has not gone to single streaming (where you combine all your recycling in one bin.) The positive side of single streaming is that people tend to recycle more, the down side is that it's very expensive to then separate all that "stuff" and much of it is damaged and has to be thrown away rather than recycled. So we have stayed with separating our recycling while others have shifted.



The key bit of news is that you can recycle much more than you might realize—all those plastic take-out containers can be recycled, bags are recycled at every grocery store, and anything metal or glass can also be recycled. All the plant holders from seedlings can be recycled as well. For a full list of items and how to recycle or dispose of them, go to: <http://m.montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/how/list.html>.

FOREIGN FILM SHOWINGS

Interested in foreign films? Chevy Chase Library holds English-subtitled foreign film showings on the first Saturday of every month at 2:00 p.m. On July 11, a movie titled *Offside in Farsi*, made in Iran, will be shown. On August 1, *The Gatekeepers*, a documentary in English and Hebrew made in Israel, will be shown. On September 5, *The Italian*, made in Russia and in Russian, Italian and English, will be shown. The showings are free.

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING... SAY SOMETHING!

REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS PERSONS TO THE NON-EMERGENCY POLICE NUMBER: (301) 279-8000. THERE ARE LOTS OF LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS, RENOVATION CONTRACTORS, PAINTERS, REPAIR PEOPLE...VERY EASY FOR SOMEONE TO BLEND IN. SO PLEASE, KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN AND REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY. SUMMER IS THE HIGH SEASON FOR THIEVES, AND THEY HAVE ALREADY VISITED SECTION 3 TWICE RECENTLY!

COUNCIL ACTIONS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Section 3 residents and a consulting landscape architect years ago. Aside from wanting a tree with interest in several seasons—flowers in the spring, berries and foliage in the summer and fall, the tree does must not get large enough to compete with overhead wires and has a rootball that is small enough to survive in our narrow 21-24 inch greenways. She also pointed out the many tree planting programs we have had to encourage biodiversity, most recently the planting of 27 Princeton Elm trees as well as the many maple trees in people’s front yards.

The consensus was that before the Council reverses its policy to keep the uniformity of the serviceberry trees, the Council wanted to do some research on other trees which might provide diversity and work in our very narrow greenways. The Council will consult our arborist and do some research and Larry Leon volunteered to do some research and make recommendations as well. A decision will be made probably in September about which, if any, trees might be another choice for our public greenways.

The sodding of greenways was briefly discussed. The cost estimate for doing all of Raymond, Shepherd and Spring Streets greenways was almost \$25,000 and it was decided that a better approach might be to replace those greenways which are in bad repair and for which neighbors are willing to water and care for the space. Our efforts to plant liriopie in a few locations that are too shady to sustain grass has been successful and the Village Manger reported that she plans on replacing several barren plots with more variegated liriopie.

The Buildings and Roads representative and the Village Manager interviewed a possible civil engineer who might guide us through the repair of several streets next year, specifically, the block of Georgia Street between Bradley Lane and Raymond Street, all of Spring Street between Delaware to Georgia Street, and the dead end of Delaware Street. How we repair those streets will depend on core sample testing and recommendations from the civil engineer we hire. We are also looking to interview others.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The budget is in good condition. Our fiscal year ends June 30 and the Village Manager is making sure that all relevant contractor bills are in place.

The fallout from the Wynne decision will have a significant impact on our budget, but the state comptroller’s office plans to create a payment plan so the funds we owe won’t be due all at once. Our biggest concern is being able to confirm that the refunds are actually for Section 3 residents, not residents of neighboring jurisdictions. All refunds will be processed by the Comptroller of Maryland.

COMMUNITY & SOCIAL

The Council decided to schedule the family movie night in the Gazebo Park for mid-August. Fun-Flicks will provide the screen and the Village Manager is looking for a pizza provider.

The Welcome New Neighbors event is slated for Thursday, July 16.

OTHER

The County Council will be holding a hearing on pesticide legislation on June 15. The State Attorney General has written a letter saying that this legislation is illegal because the state regulates pesticide use, so it’s not clear if this legislation will even pass. Councilmember Berliner has proposed an alternate legislation which involves mainly reporting pesticide use. It’s still not clear if the Council will pass the proposed bans.

The County Executive is going to bring back the idea of an Independent Transit Authority, an idea which raises many concerns. He is also seeking to create an independent Economic Development office, limiting control by the County Council.

The Bethesda Master Plan will have its first public hearing before the Planning Commission. Once they tweak it there will be another presentation before the County Council and then public hearings.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

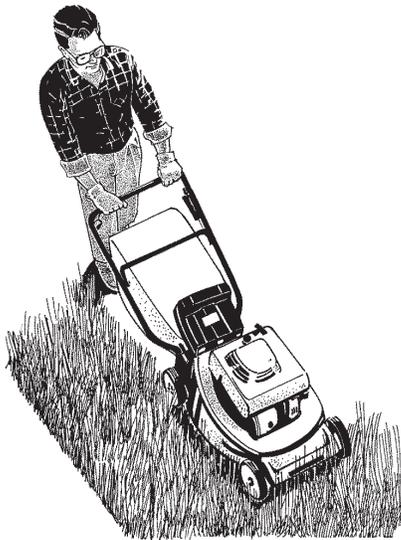
**THINKING OF BUILDING AN ADDITION?
A FENCE, A PATIO?**

You probably need a permit...before you get too far into your planning, consider talking to the Council’s representative for Buildings and Roads so that you’re on the right path. Boundary surveys are required for most efforts, drainage plans are often required, and finally, if you’re building something, check first to find out if you have to get a permit and/or need a variance to do what you want to do!

LIBRARY TO SPONSOR VISIT BY STATE INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION SPECIALIST

We are fortunate to have a very consumer-oriented insurance administration in Maryland. If you're confused about rate increases or billing notices, policy cancellations or non-renewals, the handling of a claim? The state agency will have a representative at the library on Friday, July 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to answer all your insurance questions. They will have guides for you to compare rates among insurers writing auto, homeowners, health coverage for small employers and Medicare supplemental policies. So stop by if you have questions, it's free.

NEED A TEENAGER TO HELP OUT IN YOUR HOME?



A number of Section 3 teens are looking for work this summer. Perhaps you need a sitter, or someone to help out with a household chore, a lawn that needs mowing or plants that need watering? If you need someone, contact the Village Manager and she'll try and pair you with one of our own.

If you are a teen or a parent of a teen looking for work, contact the Village Manager and let her know

what kind of work you are looking for and we'll try and pair you with a neighbor.

SHREDDING EVENT SLOW, BUT STEADY

Section 3 had the biggest showing at the shred event this year. We had a slow but steady trickle of neighbors from Section 3, Martins Additions and Section 5 who brought this year's personal papers to be shredded. Special thanks to Free Secure Shredding who did a very professional job and made it easy. Thanks, too, to John Higgins of Section 5 who helped out with the event.



WINE TASTING A HUGE SUCCESS

Saturday, June 7 was a busy night in Section 3 as residents walked from Bradley to Raymond to Shepherd and Florida Streets for our annual Wine Tasting Event. Village Sommelier **Ken Harney** selected three affordable white wines and served as host along with Village Manager **Andy Leon Harney** to kick off the night. Ken Harney then selected three affordable red wines, served up by **Geoff and Judy Corbett** and the evening ended with three amazing sangria recipes...a sparkling white wine and fruit recipe, a rose and a red wine recipe served up by hosts **John Mimikakis** (who arrived after 20 hours of travel from a business trip to Portugal that night) and **Cindy Owens** whose yard was the perfect location for the end of a lovely evening. Thanks to our hosts, and to **Tabitha Bailey** and **David Mostofi**, **Natasha Saifee** and **Carolyn Greis** for helping out with the Sangria recipes. As always, it was a fun night for everyone.

BILINGUAL PROGRAM

Saturday, July 25 marks a special Chevy Chase Library program called 1,2,3 con Andres...an interactive children's show that teaches Spanish language and Latin American culture. Children sing, shake and sound out rhythms while trying regional Latin dances. For children of all ages.

The library has a full program of other special events for toddlers and for older children. Take some time to visit with your children or grandchildren.

CHEVY CHASE AT HOME SUMMER SCHEDULE

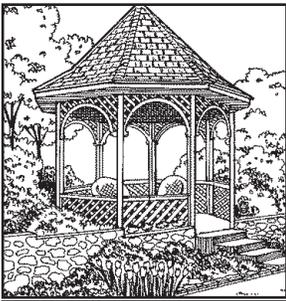
A mini-session of gentle Pilates and Balance begins Friday, July 17 at the Chevy Chase United Methodist Church. Contact (301) 657-3115 for information and to sign up.

Mark July 21 for a special viewing of the 1941 classic, *The Maltese Falcon*, based on a novel by Dashiell Hammett and directed by John Huston with stars Humphrey Bogart, Mary Astor, Peter Lorre and Sydney Greenstreet. The movie begins at 2:00 p.m. in the Chevy Chase Village Hall.

Finally, in August, Chevy Chase at Home will be sponsoring an ice cream social on August 18 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. with discussions centered around favorite trips you've taken. Who knows, you might learn about a place you want to visit, too!



SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE
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NEWS & VIEWS

JULY 2015

GOING AWAY?

TELL A NEIGHBOR, GIVE THEM CONTACT INFORMATION. IF YOU ARE HAVING SOMEONE COME IN, LET THEM KNOW. ASK THEM TO KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR HOME, CANCEL THE PAPERS BUT ASK IF ANYTHING IS DELIVERED THAT THEY TAKE IT INSIDE. MAKE SURE YOU HAVE SOMEONE MOW THE LAWN WHILE YOU'RE GONE SO THE PLACE DOESN'T LOOK EMPTY AND THEREFORE MORE INVITING TO THOSE WHO WOULD BREAK IN.